

# Longacre's Ledger

*The Journal of The Flying Eagle and Indian Cent Collectors' Society*

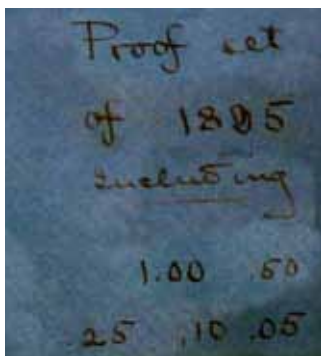
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[www.fly-inclub.org](http://www.fly-inclub.org)

December 2011



**1886 Type 2 Hill-7**  
***Delving into die states***  
***By Doug Hill***  
***pg. 9***



**Original Proof Set**  
***Envelopes***  
***By Richard Snow***  
***Pg. 11***



**Extra Outlines**  
***By Richard Snow***  
***Pg. 22***



**1898 Snow-number**  
***revisions***  
***By Richard Snow***  
***Pg. 27***



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# The Flying Eagle and Indian Cent Collectors' Society

Our mission is to gather and disseminate information related to James B. Longacre (1794-1869), with emphasis on his work as Chief Engraver of the Mint (1844 -1869) with a primary focus on his Flying Eagle and Indian Cent coinage.

*Founded 1991*

**www.fly-inclub.org**

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Please help the editor in updating any errors or changes. If you would like to become a state representative (there can be more than one per state), please contact the editor.

### On the cover...

This is J-264, a copper nickel pattern struck with the hubs for the J-208 pattern, instead of the working dies. The devices are reversed and incuse. It looks exactly like what the master die would appear if we had one to study. This rare coin was recently sold in the Stack's Bowers ANA sale, lot #7491 where it brought \$109,250.

Special thanks to Heritage Auctions for printing this issue of Longacre's Ledger

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# Longacre's Ledger

2011 Vol. 21.3 Issue #83

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## Contents

### Featured Articles

***1864 With L Proof sells for \$161,000***

*By Richard Snow* ..... 7

***1886 Type 2 Hill 7 - Delving into Die States.***

*By Douglas Warren Hill* ..... 10

***Original Proof Set Envelopes.***

*By Richard Snow* ..... 12

***Extra Outlines***

*By Richard Snow* ..... 23

***Where Have I Been All These years?***

*By Douglas Warren Hill* ..... 25

***1898 Snow-number Revisions.***

*By Richard Snow* ..... 28

***Should we list Die States as Varieties?***

*By Richard Snow* ..... 33

***Something New.***

*By Richard Snow* ..... 34

***President's letter*** ..... 5

***Club announcements*** ..... 6

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## Submission guidelines

If you have a substantive article you would like to contribute, please follow these guidelines:

- ✓ If you have internet access, you can send text to the editor's e-mail address below. Please send images in separate files.
- ✓ You may also send files and images on a CD-W disk or other storage device to the editor's address below. Storage devices will be returned upon request.
- ✓ Images of material can be made by the editor for use in the Journal. Please include the necessary return postage with the submission.
- ✓ Please feel free to contact the editor if you have any questions.

## Submission deadlines

Please submit all articles, letters, columns, press releases and advertisements no later than the following dates to assure inclusion:

Issue	Deadline	Show issue
#84 2012 Vol. 22.1	.....March 1, 2012	.....CSNS 2012
#85 2012 Vol. 22.2	.....July 1, 2012	.....ANA 2012
#86 2012 Vol. 22.3	.....November 1, 2012	.....FUN 2013
#87 2013 Vol. 23.1	.....March 1, 2013	.....CSNS 2013

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**\$20 per year, \$35 for 2 years**

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Special thanks to Charmy Harker for  
proofreading the articles.

## *The President's Letter*

*By Chris Pilliod*

This is my 41st letter as president and it is ironic that the reason I am tardy with this missive is a new initiative my company has ongoing with the United States Mint Public Law 111-302 passed on 14 December 2010 is titled “Coin Modernization, Oversight, and Continuity Act of 2010.” This potentially could manifest itself as the largest single coin act in the history of the United States Mint. But the most exciting thing about all of this is... I have been a part of the process.

The Mint in turn contracted out the technical and commercial aspects to a third party to offer several new candidate alloys and manufacturing processes. This engineering firm in turn contacted us to tap into our strength as alloy designers and processors.

Our part initiated in about May or June of this year but really did not kick into high gear until August when an entourage, including Mint officials, visited our plant facility here in Reading, PA. It was a hot sweaty day in the middle of August which originally was to simply be a morning plant tour followed by lunch and a one-hour meeting in our Conference office inside our R and D facility. But that one hour would turn into two, then three, then four and then kept on going. Several coin collecting friends would later ask me how long the meeting lasted.

I relayed the story to them that the office where we held the lively confabulation is located upstairs at the R and D building in a corner room facing outside. A large window allows a full view of Evans Cemetery across Centre Avenue on the north side of the city. I told them I didn't keep track of the time but I did watch them bury three different guys during the meeting.

But you can be proud of at least this team of government officials for what happened at lunch. We routinely provide nice box lunches at the plant, designed by some outside caterer to special order. I personally like to indulge in the tuna fish on rye, while a lot of my counterparts like to joke about my chip-aholic nature. A number of those attendees always seem to be dieting, especially the women, so they won't partake of the bag of chips the caterer throws in each box. So about halfway through lunch I slowly make the rounds of those not partaking of the Ruffles and put

away a few extra bags while the meeting transpires—I think my record is five or six. But until this meeting, and I have been in plenty of lunch meetings, I have never seen a customer pull out their wallet and ask how

much the box lunches cost in an effort to pay for their own. But that's exactly what the Mint officials did, and they wouldn't take no for an answer. They reimbursed us the cost of their own lunch, for Chrissakes... I, for one, was impressed.

Once one drills down into the depth of the scope of this legislative endeavor, it is indeed potentially very large in nature. Much of it is common knowledge, and many aspects I cannot discuss. It is pretty plain math with the price of copper at \$4 per pound and nickel being now close to \$10 per pound that a 5-cent piece is intrinsically worth more than 5-cents. So even if you could mine struck nickels ready to spend, it would cost more than five cents. Likewise the cent costs more than a cent to produce.

So the legislation basically boils down to “find a way to acceptably produce coinage at a lower cost without impacting the vending industry.” While this directive sounds simple, it ends up being extraordinarily complicated when subjected to every litmus test. For example, one of the costs of producing a cent is plating the zinc strip with copper. So ask yourself, how can you eliminate the copper plating step in the process and save a lot of money? The only metals with a copper color are gold and copper, so you can't. So you eliminate the plating operation and you end up with a cent that looks like a dime.

Just about everything is on the table, so naturally quite large tentacles have grown as part of the brainstorming process and it is extraordinarily exciting to be a part of the entire process. Even though I am on the team strictly as a technical resource, I have given them my opinion on many commercial ideas; whether that ends up mattering or not, who knows? I have been strongly vocal on the importance of density, lobbying against certain metals as candidates because of their light feel.



Lady Luck has been with me on this project. To be honest, I should not have ever been part of the team to begin with; what we call “strip” product (flat metal which is manufactured to under ¼ inch thick and is sold in large coils for consumer products) is not even my area of responsibility. But I had been working with the Commercial Manager in this area on a plate project for the United States military to design a stronger under-armoring plate for blast resistance in tanks. One day, she mentioned she had received a call from the Mint contractor asking us to get involved in developing potential candidates and she asked me to be on the team because she remembered I was an avid numismatist and thought that would be of benefit.

At first I was sure she meant a new alloy for die steels, which we actively produce. But she was adamant in stating it was for circulating coinage. “That can’t be-- we don’t do that, that’s nonferrous stuff,” I replied. “We may be doing it now,” she responded. I left thinking she had to be wrong, and it must be boring die steel stuff. A week or two later I ran into the Strip Development manager and he indeed confirmed to me that it is the strip product we were looking at, and really truly not die steels... Shazzzzammmmm! I thought to myself.

We sat down and began some initial brainstorming of candidates. Over the years, we have produced thousands of various alloys and we pored over some potential candidates, dismissing this one, registering concerns about this other one, reservations about this one. It was less a rigorous display of an engineering disciplined approach than it was whack-a-mole.

Work backwards with me here-- potential volumes are huge. Just get out your Redbook and look up the total mintage for cents in 1982, and then check out the nickel issuance for 1999. Multiply this by the weight of each denomination. Then don’t forget that to punch out a round planchets from a square you add a lot of loss, you have all seen the “webbing.” Then there are obvious yield losses through the Mill as well. Annually, we are now talking many many tons, not pounds.

During every conversation it seems like the Congressional “Super-Committee” is looking into this or looking into that, and no stone is left unturned. So we’ll see how all this plays out. The Mint would like to perform trial strikings in December and I hope to reveal in more detail how all of this plays out.

### ***The Fly-In Club Welcomes Our Newest Members***

As an ongoing feature, we’d like to welcome our new members:

<b>Member</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>
John F	Florida	Rick Snow
Dave S	California	website
Nick R	California	Rick Snow
Bob M	Illinois	none
Max W	Michigan	Vernon Sebby

Thank you for joining us. If you haven’t already done so, please check out our web site and online talk forum at

**[www.fly-inclub.org](http://www.fly-inclub.org)**

If you have any questions or comments about the club, please contact me, Vern Sebby at PO Box 559, Sandwich, Illinois, 60548, or email, [melva6906@indianvalley.com](mailto:melva6906@indianvalley.com).



***1864 With L Proof sells for \$106,500 at Heritage Pittsburgh ANA sale.***

*By Richard Snow*



***1864 With L Proof. Snow-PR2. PCGS-PR65RB***

At the recent ANA show in Pittsburgh, a gem Proof 1864 With L sold for \$161,000. The coin is 95% RED and likely traces its pedigree to the Floyd Starr sale by Stack's in October 1992. The coin is in an old green-label holder prior to 1995.

This is nearly a record price for an Indian cent, with only a 1877 MS-66RD selling for \$175,000 being higher.

This is the Snow-2 die pair which is the group of eleven examples struck in the 1868-1870 period. A total of twenty examples are believed to exist. If this is not the Starr coin, then the total known likely will jump to twenty-one.

I thought it would be interesting to list the current pedigree list. There are three die pairs which I detail in *The Flying eagle and Indian Cent Attribution Guide, 1859-1869*. Die pairs known as Snow-PR1 and Snow-PR3 are known to have been struck in 1864 since they share the same reverse as some of the Proofs of that year. The die pair labeled Snow-PR2 has the reverse known as Rev-1868A, which was first used for Pattern cents in 1868 and then regular issue Proof cents from 1869 until 1871. Obviously the Snow-PR2 pieces are restrikes from that period.

Why were the 1864 With L Proofs struck? Why were they restruck? What do the off-metal strikes tell us?

The Coinage Act of 1864 eliminated the copper nickel cent in favor of the bronze cent. This was a tacit acknowledgment that the private tokens then in circulation were a success. To make the Government's token coinage equally successful, it was necessary to make their competition illegal. Mint Director James Pollock specifically instructed that no changes in the design be made. The reasoning was possibly that there were many dies already made and they should be put into use rather than be

scrapped. Apparently, Longacre used the occasion to sharpen his obverse design, adding his initial "L" on the ribbon behind the head in the process.

The With L obverse die would technically be a Pattern die in early 1864. Two Proof obverse dies were made at this time. Five copper-nickel (or nickel alloy) examples are known to have been struck as well as eight bronze pieces. These were struck with Snow-PR1 and Snow-PR3 die pairs which utilized the regular reverse die used on 1864 copper nickel Proofs.

What happened to these coins? I think they might have been held at the Mint for many years. Perhaps they were released to the public in the William Woodin hoard in 1909. In any event, they were not distributed as regular issue Proofs in 1864.

By the 1869 there were requests for earlier coins. If the dies were available, coins would be made. This is the "Linderman Restriking Period". Many coins were restruck at this time. Some existed already, some did not.

For example the 1863 With L patterns were struck during this time. We know this because the reverse die is the previously mentioned Rev-1868A. These were struck in bronze, aluminum and copper-nickel. The 1864 With L was also restruck with Rev-1868A in bronze and aluminum, but not copper nickel. I have also seen an 1865 Proof cent with this reverse struck in bronze.

Some of these were struck in special sets for preferred friends of the Mint. The aluminum pieces were likely made for these sets. Others, like the bronze pieces may have been made just to fill back orders for 1864-dated Proof sets in 1869. The mint personnel in 1869 may not have recognized that the 1864 With L Proof was not issued previously.



In the Summer 1994 issue of *Longacre's Ledger*, I presented a pedigree list of known 1864 With L Proofs. Here I am updating it with the latest sales and including the off-metal Patterns. This is updated from the *Flying Eagle and Indian Cent Attribution Guide 1859-1869*. The 1864 chapter is now available on-line in PDF format (for \$5) in full color at my web site: [www.indiancent.com](http://www.indiancent.com).



**Die pair #1**

**Obv. 1: Left edge of 1 directly under bust point**  
**Rev. K: Same die as 1864 PR-2**

### **Bronze Issues, Snow-PR1.**

**1) Higgins. PR-63RB PCGS.**

48 grains as per Higgins catalog. Discovered in Las Vegas '83 or '84; Robert Shultz; Bowers & Merena "Higgins" 1/88:99; NC collection; EERC; American Numismatic Rarities 1/08.

**2) Marks. PR-66RB PCGS.**

Bowers & Ruddy "Marks" 11/72:164; B&R "Austin," 5/74:285; B&R "Paxman," 11/74:215; Dr. Stanley Spurgeon.

**3) New England. PR-64RD PCGS**

New England Rare Coin Galleries 11/79:74; Superior 1/05:123. This was attributed as Snow-PR2 in the NERCG catalog, although the image clearly showed PR1.

**4) Massachusetts Historical Society.**

Stack's "MHS," 3/73:379; Stack's 3/82:620

**5) Ruder.**

Stack's "Ruder," 9/87:532.

**6) Anderson-Dupont. PR-64BN PCGS**

Stack's "Anderson-Dupont, part II," 11/54:1177 ;  
 Stack's "Miles, part II 4/69:234; Fen Wagner; Heritage 6/08:210.

**7) Pennsylvania Cabinet. PR-65RB PCGS.**

B & M "Rarities Sale" 1/99:1031; Legend Numismatics.

### **Copper-Nickel Issues, Snow-PT3a, Snow-PT3b, Judd-358, Judd-359:**

**1) Heathgate. PR-64 PCGS.**

J.H.Judd; B&R RCR #21-25, 1974-1976; B&R "Willing" 6/76:1388; B&R RCR #28; ; The coin was later submitted to NGC and graded PR-64 NGC but was undesignated as J-358; EERC; PR-64 PCGS; "Heathgate" collection; Goldberg's "Benson I" 2/01:1091.

**2) PR-62 PCGS.**

Listed as nickel, J-359. Stack's "Greater NY" 9/89: 1426.



**Die Pair #2:**

**Obv. 2: 1 to right of bust point**  
**Rev. 1868A: Numerous criss-crossing die polish lines**

### **Bronze issues, Snow-PR2:**

**1) Norweb. PR-65RD NGC.**

Michael Colman; Empire Coin Co; Norweb Coll; Bowers & Merena "Norweb I," 10/87:156

**2) Blevens & Bodway. PR64RD PCGS.**

Superior "Blevens & Bodway," 6/88:4077.

**3) Starr. PR-65RB PCGS.**

Floyd Starr; Stack's "Starr," 10/92:657.

**4) Swedish Ambassador. PR-64RB PCGS.**

Swedish ambassador; Swedish embassy; Harlan White; House of Stewart 1979; Larry Whitlow 1992; Private col.; Superior 6/94:163; EERC; Texas coll.; EERC; Joseph P. Gorrell Collection; Heritage "F.U.N." 1/03:4480; Lloyd Mincy; Heritage 7/08:1543.

**5) Richmond. PR-64RB NGC.**

Superior 10/95:38; Superior 5/99: 1648 (as PCGS MS-64RB); DLRC "Richmond II" 11/04: 1041 (as NGC MS-64RB); Lloyd Mincy; Heritage 9/05:944.



**6) East Coast collection. PR-64RB NGC.**

Private owner. Said to have been acquired in the 1950's.

**7) Judd. PR-64RB PCGS.**

Dr. J. Hewitt Judd Coll.; B & R "Willing" 6/76:1387; Dr. Stanley Spurgeon.

**8) Snow '92 Plate. PR-64BN NGC**

Mid-American "FUN" 1/86:429

**9) Jay. PR-64RB NGC**

Stack's "Jay" 10/67:434; Stack's "Scanlon" 10/73:158; Dr. Coles Coll.; Stack's 10/87:1139; Superior "Auction '88" 7/88:24

**10) Breen Plate. The plate coin in Breen's Proof Encyclopedia.**

Lester Merkin; Stack's "Auction '90" 8/90:46

**11) Chapman. PR-64RD PCGS.**

Henry Chapman 11/1907; Superior 1/04:1747 (as PCGS PR-62RB); Superior 6/04:1007 (curated, now MS-64RD PCGS); Heritage "FUN" 1/05:3011.

**12) Baldenhoffer. PR-65RB PCGS.**

Richard Farish & William Baldenhoffer; Stack's "Baldenhoffer", 11/55: 214; "Northern Bay" collection; Stack's "Northern Bay" 3/06:3642; Legend;

**-) Brooklyn. PR-65RB PCGS.**

"Brooklyn" collection; Heritage 10/11: 3146. Possibly #3 above.

**Aluminum, Snow-PT3d, Judd-361:**

**1) Larson. PR-66 Cameo NGC:**

J.H.Judd; B&R RCR #21-25 1974-1976; B&R "Willing" 6/76:1389; Stack's "Cincinnati" 6/77: 380; Superior "Elite" 7/03:474; Dr. Tim Larson; EERC; Larry B.

**2) PR-64 NGC.**

B&R "Rare Coin Review" #21-25, 1974-1976;  
B&R "Willing" 6/76:1389; Stack's Cincinnati" 6/77:380.

**3) AU-50 PCGS.**



**Snow-PR3:**

**Obv 3: Repunched 864 - 864/864 (w)**

**Rev K: Same die as 1864 Snow PR-2**

**Bronze issues, Snow-PR3:**

**1) Pennsylvania Estate. PCGS-64RD.**

B&M "Halpern & Warner" 3/97: 232; Heritage 6/02:5202; Heritage 1/04:4375; Heritage 1/07: 802; Heritage 7/08:1544;

**Copper-Nickel Issues,  
Snow-PT3a, Snow-PT3b, Judd-358, Judd-359):**

**1) Spurgeon. PR-64 PCGS.**

Kosoff "Lahrman" 2/63:918 (#17); Paramount "Grand Central" 11/74:353; Paramount "Burnheimer" 5/76:1199; Stack's "Cincinnati" 6/77: 379; Kagin's; Dr. Stanley Spurgeon.

**2) Farouk. PR-60 PCGS.**

Originally listed as Oroide. Chapmen "Lefferts" 7/1881; ; King Farouk; Sotheby's "Palace Collection" 2/54:1791; ; Stack's 9/89:1427; Larry R. collection.

**3) PR-62 PCGS (J-359) Paul E.**

To summarize, there are presently twenty bronze examples traced, eight struck in 1864 and 12 restruck struck in the 1868-71 period. No copper examples have been tested. These are listed as patterns, Judd-357 and may not exist.

The five copper-nickel examples known were all struck in 1864 from two die pairs. No restrikes are known. There are at least three off-metal strikes which are classified as errors, not patterns. These are non-proofs and show effects of circulation.

There are three pieces struck in aluminum. These are all restrikes from 1868-71. It should be remembered that aluminum was very rare prior to 1868, so any pre-1868 aluminum Pattern is suspected to be a restrike.

The Judd reference lists an Oroide example, Judd-360. The example cited was tested and was found to be copper-nickel. Therefore it is my opinion that Judd-360 does not exist.

**1886 Type 2 Hill-7 - Delving into Die States**  
**by Douglas Warren Hill LM # 7**

Take another look at your favorite doubled die obverse variety. Now compare it with one owned by your friend. The two coins obviously were minted from the same obverse die. But what if they were minted using two different reverse dies? And what if one of the reverse dies is much rarer than the other? Well, over time, the die marriage with the rare reverse die will be worth more than the die marriage with the common reverse die. That is the point of this article.

We need to think of all varieties, and all Indian cents for that matter, as die marriages resulting from the use of both an obverse and a reverse die. In other words, look at both sides of your coins! When you do, a whole new field of collecting opens up as does the opportunity for greater profit. The large cent collectors have known this for decades, but they aren't any smarter than we are. We just need to catch up to them.

Now if you agree with what I just wrote, you probably want to know how to determine die rarity and how to identify dies that are not doubled dies or repunched dates.

First, rarity. I must tell you that rarity can never be known with certainty, but carefully prepared censuses can determine probable rarity. The problem with censuses though is that they take time to prepare.

So how can you find some rare "keepers" at your next coin show? Here is one way. Look for coins in early die state with cracks or cuds that likely caused the die to be retired early. Early die state examples will have no or very small flow lines near the rim of the coin. Flow lines are wavy lines that result when small amounts of die steel are pushed to the edge of the working die each time a coin is

struck. Having said that, some die marriages could be rare if perfectly good dies were changed in the minting press for whatever reason. Sometimes this did occur. Or many coins from a die marriage could have been minted but only a few coins have survived. In these cases, we will have to rely on census information over time. Go check out the flow lines on your coins! You will soon get the hang of it.

So far as identifying particular die marriages, two tools are essential. The first is the position of the date. In my two books, both entitled "*Die Varieties of Late Date Indian Cents: The Next Step*" that were written for different years - 1886 Type 2 - 1889 and 1890, 1892, 1894, and 1908-S, I created four date position numbers. These numbers identify the position of the 1 in the date relative to the Indian's bust point and a dentil below. If interested, I will be happy to send an illustration from my books that explains this. Usually the date position will vary on most but not all obverse dies. That is because the date was impressed into each working die (except the 1909 dies) using a hand held date punch.

The second tool to look for is lapping or die polishing lines. These lines are the result of repairing a defect on the working die by applying a wire brush to the die. Since the wire brush has scratched the die, the lapping lines thus formed will appear as raised on coins struck from that die. Don't confuse lapping lines with scratches on a coin, which, of course, are unique to that coin. Now, why not look for lapping lines on some of your coins? At first, you may think that lapping lines are too small to bother with. But suppose you see a lapping line that touches the lower left base of the I in United and you find exactly the same thing on another coin. If the date position is also the



**Searching for the elusive 1886 T2 H-7**

Finest known, MS64BN NGC





**1886 T2 Hill-7. Early die state.**

Die crumbling at denticles by IT in UNITED and RI in AMERICA.

same, they were probably minted from the same obverse die. Believe me, if that die marriage is rare you will start looking for that lapping line on every Indian cent that you come across! I know that feeling of accomplishment and I want you to experience it too. Ka Ching!

As a transition to the use of the date position and lapping line tools, searching for the 1886 Type 2 H-7 crumbling variety may interest you. I put the H-7 marriage on the cover of my first book and Rick Snow has included a photo of it for this article. Crumbling varieties result from the gradual erosion of a die's surface that forms large raised lumps on a coin's surface. Crumbling is much more gradual than the formation of die cracks and cuds.

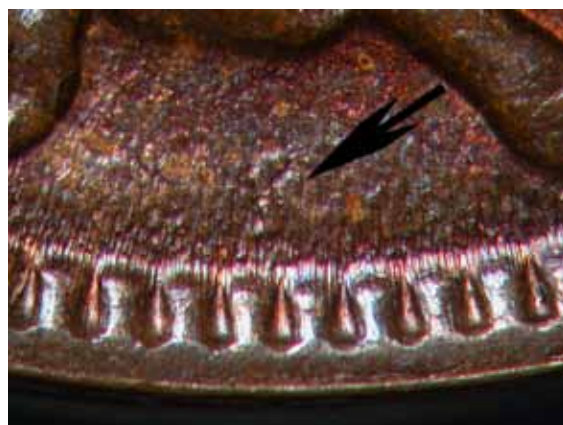
In the H-7, no crumbling can be seen in early die state examples but a small semicircle from a defective date punch in the lower part of the loop of the 6 in the date usually is visible. The semicircle does not appear to be a repunching of the date because both ends attach to the inner base of the 6. Crumbling begins in mid die state predominantly on the rim over the TE in STATES and on the rim above the first six feathers. In late die state, it is also continuous in the field next to the Indian's nose, mouth, and chin.

The reverse die has a gouge at 5:30 in the field above the dentils and light die cracks begin to appear in the left wreath in mid die state. I think that the H-7 will turn out to be either an R-4 or R-5. I found 14 examples that I sold to Rick Snow. This seems to be a lot at first glance.

However, these were accumulated in the 1990s when I was traveling to about a dozen mostly national coin shows each year. And I had quite a few dealers looking for the H-7 too.

*[Editor's note: It is obvious that the detail on the dies are very poor even on Mint State examples. Note how none of the examples have a gap between the ribbon and lower hair curl, even on the Mint State finest known example. This makes grading very difficult.]*

All but a few are mid or late die state so they easily show the crumbling of the obverse die. Start looking for the H-7. I think that you will find it to be a challenging search. I also have identified one crumbling reverse die for the



**1886 T2 Hill-7.**

S-shaped die gouge







**1886 T2 Hill-7. Middle die state.**

Die crumbling at denticles by IT in UNITED and RI in AMERICA

1887 date and six crumbling obverse and reverse dies for 1889.

Die marriages have not caught on yet not because lapping lines generally are small. (Remember that large cent collectors today actively search for the rare die marriages identified by lapping lines and premiums paid for them are substantial). Rather, the real problem is that there are many more die marriages in Indian cents than in large cents. And there are many more die marriages in the late dates starting with the 1886 Type 2 (where the bottom feather points to the space between the C and the A in America) than in the late 1860s and 1870s. Yet, the late dates are where I have done my research and where I think future research should continue. Why would I think that way?

The answer lies in the fundamental reason why we collect coins. Yes, many of us associate coins with history, myself included. But when we go to a coin show, whether we are a dealer or a collector, aren't we really looking to buy a coin that is vastly undervalued? Let's hear it for the profit motive! So, when we are looking for potential dates to catalogue die marriages, do we want to research dates that already are considered scarce or rare? I think not. A rare 1877 die marriage that already costs thousands as a generic 1877 would not develop much of a premium in percentage terms as would a rare marriage in the common date year of 1887 for instance. After all, isn't there more incentive to search coins that sell for say \$20, in the hope of finding a rare die marriage that may one day sell for thousands?

Now I want to ask for a few serious Fly-In Club volunteers to build on my work since I am completely retired from the coin hobby. Here's the deal: I hope five Fly-In Club members will get excited about. Claim one of the five common date years that I have started researching and catalogue all of the die marriages for that year only. The years are 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, and 1892. I have identified 50 die marriages for 1887, 52 for 1888, 52 for 1889, 68 for 1890, and 62 for 1892 and classified them by Hill numbers. Yes, I also attributed 1886 Type 2, 1894, and 1908-S marriages but these are semi-key dates. I think



**1886 T2 Hill-7. Late die state.**

Die crumbling at denticles by ER in AMERICA





**1886 T2 Hill-7. Late die state.**  
Die crumbling at face and neck

that the grand total of die marriages for these five common dates will exceed 400 each. But that is roughly the number of large cent die marriages identified by Bob Grellman and Jules Reiver in their attribution guide for the years 1840 to 1857 (which formed the basis for my books).

In other words, four hundred die marriages will constitute a very nice book of your own. Of the four hundred, only a relative few will be considered scarce or rare and therefore highly collectible. The remainder can be saved for date or type collectors but they first have to be identified in your book as common.

Finally, the advantage to adapting one of these years is that you will become the die marriage expert for that year and can squirrel away those marriages that you believe are rare for almost nothing. I will be happy to help in any way that I can from an information standpoint short of actually attributing new die marriages. Please feel free to contact me at 386-428-9405 or at [dwhill18@yahoo.com](mailto:dwhill18@yahoo.com). Best wishes to all in the Fly-In Club!



**1886 T2 Hill-7. Middle die state.**  
Numerous areas of die crumbling at denticles

## ***Original Proof Set Envelopes***

*By Richard Snow*

It began with a gift. It was an 1883 Proof set in its original envelope. Our collector was barely a teenager at the time. We are not told his name, but this collector was obviously bitten by the collecting bug at that time. Starting in 1892, he began purchasing his own sets every year, until the mint stopped Proof Set sales in 1916. Many of these years he would buy the set and put it away – unopened.

Later, as he made plans to pass on this collection, he instructed his daughter to never clean or disturb the pristine sets. She obeyed and, after the passing of the collector in 1955, she put the sets away, likewise instructing her children to never disturb the sets. On her recent passing at the age of 100, the collection was removed from the box that was stored under her bed for so long at the nursing home and a buyer was sought.

Centennial Auction in Nashua, NH, and its parent company, Scofield Auctions, has had some interesting coin auctions before. A 2004 sale got the attention of one of the future heirs of the collection. They contacted Steve Scofield to appraise their box of “stuff” labeled *Proof Sets*. Steve, a coin collector in the 1980’s, was flabbergasted at seeing a mint-sealed envelope that read “1895 Proof Coins, 1c, 5c, 10c, 25, 50c, \$1.00.” The other 25 sets were equally awe-inspiring. All of the Proof Sets were in original mint wrappers and in most cases original sealed Treasury mailing envelopes. Some sets contained price lists of other coins you could buy from the mint back in 1900. A set of Philippine Proofs from 1903 was also included.

The collection also contained coins purchased from The Chapman brothers in 1904, including a Flying Eagle and Indian cent set. The 1858 large letters was, unknown to either the Chapmans or the consignor, to be an 1858/7 Snow-1! The rest of the collection was mostly a complete Proof collection of Indian cents. Steve submitted the majority of the collection to NGC months before the sale.

I got an early notification of the sale and realized its importance. It was because of the Flying Eagle and Indian cent collection that I made the extended trip after the ANA show, but the opportunity to see the Proof sets was what ultimately convinced me to go.

It was well worth the time. I was successful in purchasing many of these coins, but the Proof sets were truly the star of the auction. Lot viewing was open from 12:00 until 4:00 p.m. I used the time to photograph the original envelopes while I made notes on the quality of the coins. It is not very often that original mint packaging shows up with no question of its source. I sat there and with my cell phone camera, and took digital images of each of the set’s packaging. In these images I show only the cent so I could trace what date came out of each envelope.

**More information is available at  
Centennial Auction’s web site:  
[www.centennialauctions.com](http://www.centennialauctions.com).**

On the web site they have images of the coins, packaging, and the mint pricelists that were included in the sets.



***1883 Proof set packaging***

This set was originally opened and disturbed by the original owner a few times. Only the Mint tissue survived. The coins were lightly nicked and they graded PR64 to PR65.



***1892 Proof set packaging***

The 1892 set was wrapped in Mint tissue and sealed in a plain envelope with “*Proof Set of 1892*” written on the outside. It is likely that the writing was by the original owner. The quality of this set was exceptional. The coins graded between PR65, for the cent which had some surface specks, to PR67+ for the dollar. I noticed some contact marks on the nickel, so perhaps this was sealed after the coins were examined a few times.





**1893 Proof set packaging**

The 1893 set was wrapped in tan kraft paper only. I graded the cent PR65BN/RD with the obverse totally brown and the reverse totally red. The nickel had a few light marks and the silver was quite nice with attractive toning. The dollar graded PR67 by NGC. It appears that this set was also examined many times before storage.

There was no 1894 Proof set in the collection.



**1896 Proof set packaging**

The 1896 was wrapped in a light tan kraft paper without any tissue. It was sealed in a blue envelope and a Treasury mailing envelope on which was written "Proof Set of 1896" by the original owner.

The silver coins survived in outstanding condition with somewhat mottled toning. The cent was graded "Altered color" by NGC. Altered by who? The nickel graded PR63 due to some spots. The dime graded PR66 and the quarter and half dollar graded PR67. The dollar graded PR68\*.



**1895 Proof set packaging**

The 1895 set was wrapped in white paper and sealed in a plain blue envelope with "Proof Set of 1895" written on the outside. The envelope was sealed and was likely never opened by the original collector.

Imagine the goose bumps that you would get viewing this unopened! Steve Scofield told me about this experience. He cautioned the owners about the value, should the dollar be present as stated on the outside.

Not only was the dollar present, but it and all the silver coins were spectacular! The dime graded PR67, the quarter PR67+, the half dollar PR66 and the dollar PR67+. The cent graded PR64RB and the nickel graded PR65.

The toning was impressive. Some of the coins looked like they had smaller coins stacked directly on top of them, which created an arc of toning on the larger coin.



**1897 Proof set packaging**

The 1897 was wrapped similarly to the 1896 set with the addition of a Mint pricelist. The Treasury mailing envelope had only 1897 written on it. It is in a different hand from earlier sets.

The silver survived in great condition with all four of them grading PR67. The cent graded PR64+ and the nickel was not submitted due to fingerprints. I think the lack of tissue contributed to the lack of quality for the cent. On the nickel, well maybe it is a Mint worker's fingerprint.





***1898 Proof set packaging***

The 1898 set had the coins wrapped inside tissue and kraft paper. It was folded into a blue envelope. *1898* was written in pencil on the envelope.

The coins were laid out cent, nickel then folded. Next the dime and quarter were laid out and it was folded again. Lastly the half dollar and dollar were laid out and the wrapper is folded in on the ends and then folded over twice more.

This set was outstanding with the cent grading PR66RB. The silver coins graded PR67 or PR68 with the dime grading only PR64 due to fingerprints. Mint employees were not always careful.



***1900 Proof set packaging***

The 1900 set had two wrappers - one for the silver coins and another one for the minor coins. Both were put in a kraft envelope. All coins in this set were high quality. The toning was dull.

The cent graded PR-66\*RB. The nickel and dime graded PR64. The quarter and half dollar were both spectacular and graded PR68. The dollar graded PR67.



***1899 Proof set packaging***

The 1899 set had the coins folded into a kraft wrapper without tissue and was inserted into a yellow envelope. This was shipped in a tan Treasury envelope. The envelope was lined with linen.

The cent retained mostly full red color, even though it was graded PR66RB. The silver coins graded PR66 or PR67 with the exception of the half dollar, which had fingerprints. It graded PR64.



***1901 Proof set packaging***

The 1901 set had the coins in a single wrapper with tissue folded and put into a kraft envelope. This was put in a Treasury envelope with a Mint price sheet. All coins were outstanding quality, likely due to the use of tissue. The cent graded PR67\*RB and had beautiful toning. The nickel graded PR65, the dime PR64, quarter PR66 and the half dollar PR67. The dollar got a PR66.

# Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, \_\_\_\_\_, 189

## REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE SALE OF PROOF COINS AND MEDALS.

1. The price of the regular Proof Set of Gold Coins will be \$38.50; the Proof Set of Silver and Minor Coins, \$2.50; Minor Coin Proof Sets, Eight Cents per set. Single Gold pieces, in proof, will be sold at Twenty-five Cents each above their intrinsic value. Silver sets will not be separated. Proof Sets for the current year only will be furnished. The Mint has no Coins or Sets of back dates for sale.

(A "proof coin" is one struck by hand on a screw press from a specially polished die, using a polished blank.)

2. Private medal dies can not, under the law, be prepared at the Mint, but when the regular business of the Mint will permit, medals may be struck from dies furnished by individuals, public institutions, and incorporated societies, at a charge sufficient to cover the cost of the operation and the metal.

A list of medals, with the prices thereof, is annexed.

3. The Coins of the United States, now authorized by law, are:

GOLD.	SILVER.	NICKEL.	BRONZE.
Double Eagle,	Dollar,	Five Cents,	One Cent.
Eagle,	Half Dollar,		
Half Eagle,	Quarter Dollar,		
Quarter Eagle,	Dime,		

All inquiries, orders, and remittances should be addressed to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia.

HERMAN KRETZ,  
*Superintendent.*

APPROVED:

R. E. PRESTON,  
*Director of the Mint.*

## Mint Pricelist





CP

## GOLD, SILVER, AND BRONZE MEDALS

WHICH CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE MINT OF THE UNITED STATES AT PHILADELPHIA.

FINE GOLD MEDALS.

Size. Price.

PRESIDENTIAL.

Size. Price.

TIME INCREASES HIS FAME.....

16 \$9.00

JAMES A. GARFIELD.....

16 8.00

COMMENCEMENT OF CABINET.....

12 6.25

WASHINGTON AND JACKSON.....

10 4.50

LINCOLN AND GARFIELD.....

10 4.00

FINE SILVER MEDALS.

37 6.00

PRESIDENCY RELINQUISHED.....

25 1.50

ALLEGIANCE MEDAL.....

18 1.00

TIME INCREASES HIS FAME.....

16 .75

JAMES A. GARFIELD.....

16 .60

PENNSYLVANIA BI-CENTENNIAL.....

12 .50

COMMENCEMENT OF CABINET.....

12 .35

WASHINGTON AND JACKSON.....

10 .25

WASHINGTON AND LINCOLN.....

10 .25

WASHINGTON AND GRANT.....

10 .25

WASHINGTON WREATH.....

10 .25

LINCOLN AND GRANT.....

10 .25

LINCOLN BROKEN COLUMN.....

10 .25

LINCOLN AND GARFIELD.....

10 .25

VALLEY FORGE CENTENNIAL.....

25 1.50

ARMY—Bronze.

42 2.00

1. WASHINGTON before Boston.....

34 1.50

2. MAJOR GENERAL GATES, for Saratoga.....

35 1.50

3. GENERAL MORGAN, for Cowpens.....

28 1.50

4. JOHN EAGER HOWARD, for Cowpens.....

28 1.50

5. COLONEL Wm. WASHINGTON, for Cowpens.....

28 1.50

6. COLONEL GPO. CROGAN, for Sandusky.....

40 1.50

7. MAJOR GENERAL HARRISON, for the Thames.....

40 1.50

8. GOVERNOR ISAAC SHELLEY, for the Thames.....

40 1.50

9. MAJOR GENERAL SCOTT, for Chippewa and Niagara.....

40 1.50

10. MAJOR GENERAL GAINES, for Fort Erie.....

40 1.50

11. MAJOR GENERAL PORTER, for Chippewa, Niagara, and Erie.....

40 1.50

12. MAJOR GENERAL BROWN, for the same.....

40 1.50

13. BRIGADIER GENERAL MILLER, for the same.....

40 1.50

14. BRIGADIER GENERAL HIPLEY, for the same.....

40 1.50

15. MAJOR GENERAL MACOMB, Battle of Plattsburgh.....

40 1.50

16. MAJOR GENERAL JACKSON, Battle of New Orleans.....

40 1.50

17. MAJOR GENERAL TAYLOR, Palo Alto.....

40 1.50

18. " " " " for Monterey.....

40 1.50

19. " " " " for Buena Vista.....

56 3.00

20. MAJOR GENERAL SCOTT, for Battles in Mexico.....

64 8.00

21. MAJOR GENERAL OHANT.....

29 1.50

22. COLONEL LEE, "Light Horse Harry".....

25 1.25

23. COCKY DE PLEURY, for Stony Point.....

25 1.50

24. ANTHONY WAYNE, for Stony Point.....

35 1.50

25. NATHANIEL GREEN, for Botaw Springs.....

35 1.50

NAVY.

55 1.50

30. JOHN PAUL JONES, for Serapis.....

55 1.50

31. CAPTAIN THOMAS TRUXTON, for the action with the Frigate D'Almeida.....

55 1.50

32. CAPTAIN HULL, for Capture of the Guerriere.....

40 1.50

33. CAPTAIN JACOB JONES, for Capture of the Frolic.....

40 1.50

34. CAPTAIN DECATUR, for Capture of the Mucedonian.....

40 1.50

35. CAPTAIN BAINBRIDGE, for Capture of the Java.....

40 1.50

36. CAPTAIN LAWRENCE, for Capture of the Peacock.....

40 1.50

37. CAPTAIN BURROWS, for the Capture of the Boxer.....

40 1.50

38. LIEUTENANT McALL, for Capture of the Boxer.....

40 1.50

39. CAPTAIN PERRY, Capture of the British Fleet on Lake Erie.....

40 1.50

40. CAPTAIN ELIOTT, for the same.....

40 1.50

41. CAPTAIN WASHINGTON, for Capture of the Epervier.....

40 1.50

42. CAPTAIN BLAKELY, for Capture of the Re-inder.....

40 1.50

43. CAPTAIN MACDONOUGH, for Capture of the British Fleet on Lake Champlain.....

40 1.50

44. CAPTAIN BENLEY, for the same.....

40 1.50

45. LIEUTENANT CASSIN, for the same.....

40 1.50

46. CAPTAIN BIDDLE, for Capture of the Penguin.....

40 1.50

47. CAPTAIN STEWART, for Capture of the Cyane and Levant.....

40 1.50

48. CAPTAIN ED. PERRELL, before Tripoli.....

40 1.50

WASHINGTON MEDALS.

25 1.00

53. PRESIDENCY RELINQUISHED.....

25 1.00

54. THE CABINET MEDAL.....

12 .25

55. TIME INCREASES HIS FAME.....

12 .25

56. COMMENCEMENT OF CABINET.....

12 .25

57. JOHN ADAMS.....

58. THOMAS JEFFERSON.....

59. JAMES MADISON.....

60. JAMES MONROE.....

61. JOHN Q. ADAMS.....

62. ANDREW JACKSON.....

63. MARTIN VAN BUREN.....

64. WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.....

65. JOHN TYLER.....

66. JAMES K. POLK.....

67. ZACHARY TAYLOR.....

68. MILLARD FILMORE.....

69. FRANKLIN PIERCE.....

70. JAMES BUCHANAN.....

71. ABRAHAM LINCOLN.....

72. ANDREW JOHNSON.....

73. ULYSSES S. GRANT.....

74. RUTHERFORD B. HAYES.....

75. JAMES A. GARFIELD.....

76. CHESTER A. ARTHUR.....

77. GROVER CLEVELAND.....

78. BENJAMIN HARRISON.....

79. WILLIAM MCKINLEY.....

DIRECTORS OF THE MINT.

81. DAVID WITTENHOUSE.....

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93. HERMAN KRETZ.....

MISCELLANEOUS.

94. RESCUE OF Officers and Crew, Brig Somers.....

95. CAPTAIN INGRAHAM, for Rescue of Martin Kosuta.....

96. SHIPWRECK MEDAL.....

97. U. S. COAST SURVEY, for Gallantry and Humanity.....

98. JAPANESE EMBASSY MEDAL.....

99. Dr. FREDERICK ROSE, for Skill and Humanity.....

100. ALLEGIANCE MEDAL.....

101. CAPTAIN PERRY (State of Pennsylvania), for the Capture of the British Fleet on Lake Erie.....

102. PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS, Action on Lake Erie.....

103. MAJOR GENERAL SCOTT, Commonwealth of Virginia.....

104. PROF. LOUIS AGASSIZ MEDAL.....

105. COLONEL ARMSTRONG, for Destruction of the Indian Village of Kittanning.....

106. INDIAN PEACE MEDAL.....

107. CAPTAINS CREIGHTON, LOW, and STOUTER, Wreck of Steamer San Francisco.....

108. BUTTS, by Congress.....

109. CORNELIUS VANDERBILT, by Congress.....

110. Dr. ROSACK.....

111. FIRST STRAID COINAGE.....

112. COSMOPOLITE M. C. PERRY, from Merchants of Boston.....

113. PACIFIC RAILROAD MEDAL.....

114. EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION MEDAL.....

115. CYRUS W. FIELD, Atlantic Cable Medal.....

116. DR. JOSEPH PARSONS.....

117. GRANTS' INDIAN PEACE MEDAL.....

118. HAYES " " Oblong.....

119. GARFIELD " " Oblong.....

120. ARTHUR " " Oblong.....

121. CLEVELAND " " Oblong.....

122. HARRISON " " Oblong.....

123. HARRISON " " Round.....

124. "LET US HAVE PEACE".....

125. SEWARD ROBINSON.....

126. METIS (Shipwreck) MEDAL.....

127. JOHN HOBN Life-Saving MEDAL.....

128. U. S. DIPLOMATIC MEDAL July 4, 1876.....

129. VALLEY FORGE CENTENNIAL.....

130. GREAT SEAL MEDAL.....

131. JOSEPH FRANCIS MEDAL.....

132. WILLIAM WINDOM (Secretary of Treasury).....

133. J. G. CARLISLE " ".....

DANIEL S. MANNING " ".....

LYMAN J. GAGE " ".....

 The diameter of the Medals is expressed by numbers, each of which indicates the sixteenth of an inch.



### ***1902 Proof set packaging***

The 1902 set was well assembled with the coins folded in a wrapper with tissue and put into a kraft envelope. This was put into a linen-lined Treasury envelope with a Mint pricelist.

All the coins were very high quality. The cent graded PR64RB while the nickel and the half dollar graded PR66. The dime and quarter graded PR67. The dollar graded PR-68\*.



### ***1904 Proof set packaging***

The 1904 set was in just a wrapper with tissue in a kraft envelope. The coins were very high grade. It is interesting to note that the dollar was not a Proof, but an MS coin. It graded MS66. The cent was a real beauty and graded PR66. The nickel and dime were both graded PR64. The half dollar graded PR68. The quarter was PR66.



### ***1903 Proof set packaging***

The 1903 set was in only the wrapper with tissue in a kraft envelope. The envelope showed signs of deterioration. All coins were very high quality. The nickel had dies rotated 108 deg. from normal.

The cent graded PR66RB. The nickel, quarter and half graded PR66 as well. The dime had some fingerprints and graded PR64. Toning was very attractive.



### ***1905 Proof set packaging***

The 1905 set was in just a wrapper and tissue in a deteriorating kraft envelope. The dime in this set was an electric blue and gold with a very unusual holographic look - like the toning was floating above the surface. It graded PR67, which I thought was too low. The half dollar graded PR65 and the quarter graded PR67. The dollar graded PR68.







***1906 Proof set #1 packaging***

There were two 1906 Proof sets. The first had the coins in a wrapper without tissue inside an envelope. The quality of the coins was very high. The cent graded PR67\*RB. The nickel, dime and half dollar all graded PR66 and the quarter graded PR65.



***1907 Proof set packaging***

The 1907 set was in a plain wrapper with tissue. The coins were of very high quality. The cent graded PR65RB. The nickel and half dollar graded PR66. The dime was a PR67. The quarter was spectacular and graded PR68+\* Cameo. Three different superlatives on top of the grade is amazing!



***1906 Proof set #2 packaging***

The second 1906 set was just in a wrapper without and envelope. The quality was very high. The cent graded PR65RB and was 90% red. The nickel and quarter graded PR66. The dime graded PR67. The half dollar was a PR65+.



***1908 Proof set packaging***

The 1908 set was in a wrapper with tissue in an plain envelope. The coins were high quality. The cent graded PR66RB. The nickel, quarter, and half dollar all graded PR66 and the dime graded PR67.



***1907 Quarter NGC PR68+\* Cameo***



***1909 Proof set packaging***



The 1909 set was lacking the Indian cent and the VDB Lincoln. While it is not surprising that the VDB was not there, it is unusual that the Indian cent was not represented. The five coins were in a wrapper with tissue inside an envelope.

The VDB Proofs were known to be special when they were struck and their distribution was highly controlled. The cent and the half dollar were spectacular in this set.

The Lincoln cent graded PR-66+RD and all I marked next to it in my catalog was - WOW! The nickel graded PR64. The dime PR66, and the quarter PR65. The half dollar graded PR68.

coin's history did not include dipping or cleaning. It was graded PR66RB. The nickel graded PR65 cameo. The dime and half dollar graded PR67 and the quarter graded PR66.



***1913 Proof set packaging***

The 1913 set included only three coins - the cent, nickel (Type 2) and the dime. The coins were in a plain wrapper without tissue in a plain envelope. All the coins were untoned. The cent was graded PR66RD. The nickel was likely the finest example known. It graded PR68+. The dime was likewise untoned. It graded PR66+.



***1910 Proof set packaging***

The 1910 set was in a wrapper without tissue. No envelope. The silver coins all graded PR67. The cent had spot that went into the metal, so NGC called it *Environmental Damage*. The nickel also had spots and was not submitted for that reason.

There was no 1911 set in the collection.



***1914 Proof set packaging***

The 1914 set was in a plain paper wrapper without tissue or envelope. The cent had no toning and graded PR66RD. The dime and quarter graded PR68 with either just a light tone and age-old haze. The half dollar graded PR66.



***1912 Proof set packaging***

The 1912 set was in a plain wrapper without tissue and no envelope. The cent had a look like it had been dipped and was partially retoned. Of course, we know that the





### 1915 Proof set packaging

The 1915 set was also in a paper wrapper without tissue or an envelope. The cent had a dipped look on the reverse, but of course was not. It graded PR66BN+. The nickel graded PR65. The dime and half dollar graded PR67. The quarter graded PR66.



### 1916 Proof set packaging

The 1916 set was in a plain wrapper with the tissue. The cent graded PR65BN and the nickel had some light spots and graded only PR64. Included in the set was a 1916 Barber dime, 1916 Mercury dime, and a 1916-D Barber quarter. It is unknown if these were purchased at the Mint or added from local sources.

This collection, called "*The Time Capsule Collection*" by the auction company, sold for over \$1,500,000. The sets were offered individually and then as a set. The individual coins were added up and 10% was added to this total and then bidding continued. If the whole set sold, then the packaging was included. If no additional bids were forthcoming, then the individual coins sold at their original top bid and the packaging was then sold as a single lot. Only the 1907, 1910, 1912, 1914 and 1916 sets sold individually.

The packaging for these sets was not the full complement of packaging and went for between \$200 and \$550.

These were just plain wrappers, so they were not too interesting. If the 1902 set was available, with all the original wrappings and pricelist, then I would think they would have sold for close to \$2,000. Unfortunately, there was no opportunity to find this out as it sold as a set for nearly \$60,000. Below are the prices realized.

261T	Proof Sets: 1883 (9 pcs.)	\$21,390.00
262T	Proof Sets: 1892 (6 pcs.)	\$22,425.00
263T	Proof Sets: 1893 (6 pcs.)	\$36,225.00
264T	Proof Sets: 1895 (6 pcs.)	\$258,750.00
265T	Proof Sets: 1896 (6 pcs.)	\$67,275.00
266T	Proof Sets: 1897 (6 pcs.)	\$68,425.00
267T	Proof Sets: 1898 (6 pcs.)	\$58,650.00
268T	Proof Sets: 1899 (6 pcs.)	\$41,400.00
269T	Proof Sets: 1900 (6 pcs.)	\$40,825.00
270T	Proof Sets: 1901 (6 pcs.)	\$39,675.00
271T	Proof Sets: 1902 (6 pcs.)	\$59,800.00
272T	Proof Sets: 1903 (6 pcs.)	\$55,775.00
273T	Proof Sets: 1904 (6 pcs.)	\$56,350.00
274T	Proof Sets: 1905 (5 pcs.)	\$24,150.00
275T	Proof Sets: 1906 (5 pcs.)	\$29,325.00
276T	Proof Sets: 1906 (5 pcs.)	\$27,600.00
277A	Proof Sets: 1907: 1c, PF65RB.	\$1,437.50
277B	Proof Sets: 1907: 5c, PF66.	\$1,840.00
277C	Proof Sets: 1907: 10c, PF67.	\$6,900.00
277D	Proof Sets: 1907: 25c, PF68+* Cameo.	\$28,750.00
277E	Proof Sets: 1907: 50c, PF66	\$6,785.00
277Z	Proof Sets: 1907 original packaging	\$356.50
278T	Proof Sets: 1908 (5 pcs.)	\$28,175.00
279T	Proof Sets: 1909 (5 pcs.)	\$61,525.00
280A	Proof Sets: 1910: 1c, Proof.	\$575.00
280B	Proof Sets: 1910: 5c, PF60.	\$207.00
280C	Proof Sets: 1910: 10c, PF67.	\$2,990.00
280D	Proof Sets: 1910: 25c, PF67 Cameo.	\$10,062.50
280E	Proof Sets: 1910: 50c, PF67*.	\$18,400.00
280Z	Proof Sets: 1910 original packaging	\$529.00
281A	Proof Sets: 1912: 1c, PF66RB.	\$6,842.50
281B	Proof Sets: 1912: 5c, PF65 Cameo.	\$891.25
281C	Proof Sets: 1912: 10c, PF67.	\$5,750.00
281D	Proof Sets: 1912: 25c, PF66.	\$3,967.50
281E	Proof Sets: 1912: 50c, PF67.	\$8,510.00
281Z	Proof Sets: 1912 original packaging	\$460.00
282T	Proof Sets: 1913 1c, 5c & 10c (3 pcs.)	\$79,350.00
283A	Proof Sets: 1914: 1c, PF66RD.	\$13,225.00
283B	Proof Sets: 1914: 5c, PF67.	\$18,400.00
283C	Proof Sets: 1914: 10c, PF68.	\$10,350.00
283D	Proof Sets: 1914: 25c, PF68*.	\$17,250.00
283E	Proof Sets: 1914: 50c, PF66.	\$6,555.00
283Z	Proof Sets: 1914 original packaging	\$488.75
284T	Proof Sets: 1915 (5 pcs.)	\$32,200.00
285A	Proof Sets: 1916: 1c, PF65BN.	\$3,450.00
285B	Proof Sets: 1916: 5c, PF64.	\$3,105.00
285Z	Proof Sets: 1916 original packaging	\$230.00





**1858 J-264, a hub trial piece of J-208, Snow-PT-28.**

***This is what a master die would look like, with the devices incuse.***

One of the features found on many of Longacre's coin designs are small outlines on letters and devices that have puzzled many variety collectors. In the 5th edition of the *Cherrypicker's Guide*, they are labeled *Longacre Doubling* by J.T. Stanton, which in my opinion is a misnomer, since it is not doubling at all.

I feel the best term is "extra outlines", which was the term used by Walter Breen in his *Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins*. I don't think Breen thought of it as anything more than a descriptive for what he was seeing. It is not defined in his glossary.

The first time these extra outlines are defined is in a pamphlet that Bill Fivaz and J.T. Stanton released in the early 1990's "*Strike Doubling vs. Die Doubling*." This can also be found in the 3rd edition of the *Cherrypicker's Guide* (1994).

In the 3rd edition they defined the outlines as "The shoulder of the punch or punches actually slightly penetrating the surface of the die." They prefaced this comment with "Some believe."

The extra outlines are seen on many coins beginning around 1853. The earliest that I have seen extra outlines is on the rays and letters of the 1853 Arrows and Rays half dollar, 1854 Type 2 three cent pieces, and 1854 Type 2 gold dollars. There may be earlier examples found.

In 1858, they are found on only some Small Letter Flying Eagle dies and some low leaf reverses. I have seen a few 1860 Indian Heads with them too. The Indian Head redesign in 1864 (With L design - 1864 - 1886 T1) has the

most noticeable extra outlines only because there are more coins in the marketplace on which to see them. They are also found on the Bold N reverse from 1870 - 1909. This reverse was redesigned by William Barber, so it may be one of the last designs to show extra outlines.

The cause of these extra outlines is evident when we look at a very rare hub trial for the 1858 pattern Indian cent (J-208, Snow-PT28). This piece, listed as Judd-264, is struck with the hub rather than the die. Since hubs are "positive" renditions of the design, the resulting coin is "negative." This means the design is incuse.

This coin was sold by Stacks's Bowers at the August 2011 ANA auction in Chicago, lot 7491. The coin shows exactly what the *master die* would look like. Remember that a master die is a negative, just like the working die. The master die has a much longer life, since it is used to make hubs. For instance, only one master die created all the With L dies from 1864 until the design was altered in 1886. We know this because the extra outlines found on 1864 With L coins are the same as found on 1886 T1 coins, as well as all coins in between.

Notice how the field is sculpted away from the letters and devices without getting too close to the letters and devices themselves. This is where the outlines are formed.

Initially, Longacre reduced his Indian cent model to an Indian Head device punch using a Janvier reducing machine. Using this punch and the individual letter punches, Longacre created a negative of the design in softened metal. He had to take great care in setting the depths of the



letters. The denticles and other raised elements were added as well. When it was completed, the fields must have been deformed, so they were likely ground down a bit.

This negative was hardened and made into a positive master hub which looked much like the finished coin would, but without the date. This would be touched up if there was anything that needed to be removed from the design.

Next this positive would be hardened and used to make the final design found on all of the Indian cents until the next design change - the master die. This master die would be used to make the working hubs that would produce dies for years to come. Working hubs had a life of 4 to 10 years. Hub deterioration appears as missing elements of thin raised letters and design elements. Their changes can be traced on coins from year to year.

Apparently, Longacre did not want any field areas to effect the working hubs he was going to make, so he removed the metal from the field areas on the master die, being careful not to get too close to the letters and devices. By doing this extra step, he created extra outlines.

Now, it must be mentioned that the extra outlines are not found on all coins the master die prepared this way. The working hubs had to have been sunk deep enough to show them, and most all were. Next, the dies made from the working hubs also had to be sunk deep enough to show



***Image reversed showing what a working hub might look like. The devices would be raised.***

them. Not all were. Also, if the die was ground down during its life, the extra outlines may also have been removed.

It is clear that extra outlines are merely a remnant of Longacre's die making process. By cataloging them, we can trace master dies and track hub deterioration.

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***Where Have I Been All These Years?***  
**by Douglas Warren Hill LM # 7**

Many Fly-In Club members probably don't know me. That is because in 1998 I left the coin collecting hobby and went back to college. A few years later I was teaching college courses for the University of Maryland to members of the U. S. military in Asia and Europe. Now retired, I can look back on my activities that at times have been a little off the beaten path but always self-instructive.

I corresponded with Rick Snow recently, and he asked me to write an article about what I have been up to. So to those who know me, I hope that the following paragraphs will be a homecoming of sorts - that you can think, "yeah that's Doug Hill!" And for those who don't, I hope that you can still identify with some of my experiences.

Indian cents have always been my favorites. I still remember buying my first Indian cent in 1958 (a cleaned and partly bent 1888 G-4) for 80c at a coin shop in Winter Park, Florida. I no longer have that coin, but I was so proud of it at the time because it was 70 years old! However, that was it for Indian cents for a while. In 1959, as you know, the reverse of the Lincoln cent design was changed from wheat ears to the Lincoln Memorial, and I spent several years sorting through change for the "wheaties." One day, I was going through some bank penny rolls and found a problem free 1909 VDB cent in VF. Sure, it's only worth a few bucks, but I still have that one!

I joined the Fly-In Club about 20 years ago, just after it was created by Rick Snow, Larry Steve, Chris Pilliod, Ken Hill and a few others. Die varieties were hot and soon I was traveling to the major national shows in search of doubled dies and repunched dates.

However, my interests expanded to die marriages of the late date large cents from 1843 to 1857 after reading an attribution guide written by Bob Grellman and Jules Reiver. They were only concerned with rarity and not necessarily the die varieties that we Indian cent collectors were looking for.

At the 1994 ANA show in Detroit, I decided to write a book about Indian cent die marriages using the principles adapted by Grellman and Reiver. Actually, I ended up writing two. I published the first book, entitled "*Die Varieties of Late Date Indian Cents: The Next Step*" in 1997 which covered the years from 1886 Type 2 through 1889. In 1998, I published a second book with the same title for the years 1890, 1892, 1894, and 1908-S. (For further explanation, please read my article "*Delving into Die States*" which is also in this issue of "*Longacre's Ledger*.") It makes the case that right now there are many rare Indian cent die marriages out there that are just waiting to be



discovered. And these rare die marriages likely will become quite valuable some time in the future. Remember, it has already happened in the large cent arena!

After finishing my 1998 book, I decided at the age of 48 to teach at the college level. There was a major problem, though, that I had to overcome. Almost all 4-year college teaching positions in the United States required a PhD. All I had at the time was an MBA. However, I knew that many colleges located overseas would hire people with Masters degrees. To bolster my resume, I decided to earn a second Masters degree, this time in History which was also a subject that I loved.

I applied and was accepted to the Masters program in American History at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. I will never forget my first day at Brown. My feelings were a mixture of whether this was really happening and the realization that 23 years out of college I had a lot of work ahead of me. My fellow graduate students were mostly in their early and mid-twenties - easily young enough to be my kids. Talk about culture shock!

On top of that, I wanted to get the most out of my university experience, so I resided in the graduate student dorm and ate in Brown's dining halls - nicknamed "the Ratty" and "the VDub". I found that it was an excellent opportunity to understand the next generation. While the campus was quiet (no hippies and student protests of the 1960s), the desire to improve oneself and society really doesn't change.

I supported Brown's football, baseball, basketball, and ice hockey teams enthusiastically. Ice hockey, especially, is a big deal in New England. Brown, of course, had an intramural sports program and I decided to join



an ice hockey team at that level. However, another big problem became apparent - I didn't know how to ice skate! So during free skate times, I crawled out to the center of the ice rink and told myself that I would skate back to the boards. Eventually I did and learned the basics including skating backward. After graduation, I returned to Florida and joined an over-50 league. I was only an average player but I did score some goals. And I did learn to skate on that slippery ice!

August of 2001 came and Mary and I found ourselves living in an apartment less than a mile from Camp Zama which is U. S. Army Headquarters in Japan. Camp Zama is the old Japanese West Point and is located about 20 miles southeast of Tokyo and about half way between Tokyo and Yokohama. I had received an offer to teach History and Business courses for the University of Maryland's Asian Division in central Japan. That meant I would be teaching at two Navy bases (Yokosuka and Atsugi), an air force base (Yokota), and a Marine base (Camp Fuji), in addition to Camp Zama. Tokyo is a bigger city than New York with mostly very narrow streets. While we had a car, because of the congestion generally, having to drive on the left side of the road, and with the steering wheel of cars on the right side, we kept our driving to a minimum. I commuted between the bases by using Japan's very capable train and subway systems.

My students were mostly from the U. S. military but I also had a few Japanese students who worked on the various bases. English wasn't a problem for them which they had mastered perfectly.

But 9-11 was.

On that terrible day, all U. S. bases were locked down with only essential personnel allowed to enter. I never figured this out, but I could enter the bases whereas my Japanese students could not. So, I conducted classes in nearby Japanese restaurants and even in parks for close to a week afterward.

While I am talking about the Japanese people, I want to say that Mary and I hold them in very high regard. They are bright, considerate, and very pro-American. Whenever we became lost, there was always someone willing to help us despite our very limited command of the Japanese language.

No one is perfect, and the samurai tradition and a tendency to conform to social custom at all cost is sometimes just below the surface, but we feel blessed to have been guests in their country for six years. We hope that their recovery continues from the earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear crisis of last March.

In 2004 I was allowed to transfer to Maryland's European division for a one year assignment to Kosovo. I couldn't bring Mary with me because Kosovo was



considered to be in a war zone. This was the case even though there had been little fighting since the late 1990s when planes from American aircraft carriers had bombed the Serb invaders.

But, first, I had to take a flight from Tokyo to Frankfurt, Germany, which flew over the length of Russia. Then I was off to Heidelberg, Germany, for a week long training program at Maryland's European headquarters. Heidelberg is a beautiful city known for its shops and a large medieval castle. It is definitely worth the trip if you have the opportunity to go there. Maryland sends all of its professors to Kosovo by Air Force C-130s which are piston engine cargo planes of the Viet Nam War era. They have a large rear door for dropping supplies by parachute. Because they are built primarily for cargo, they are not the most comfortable way to fly. Yet, they make up in reliability for what they lack in comfort.

In 2004, NATO was keeping the peace between the people of Kosovo who are 90% Albanian Muslims and 10% Serbs who are Eastern Orthodox Christians. At that time, Kosovo was a province of Serbia even though today it is recognized as independent by many nations. Religious hatred has engulfed the region since Turkish Muslims invaded Eastern Europe hundreds of years ago. The Serbs had attacked Kosovo in the 1990s in order to drive out and kill the Muslim people.

When I arrived in Kosovo, each major NATO country had its own base and the Americans had two - Camp Bondsteel where I was stationed, and Camp Montith where I was also expected to teach. Bondsteel was the larger of the two and was home to a squadron of Apache attack helicopters. It was garrisoned by units from the Ohio National Guard that became the pool for my students. From the outside, it looked like something out of a John Wayne Vietnam War movie. It was in the middle of nowhere with earthen berms, barbed wire fences, searchlights, and many guards with automatic weapons.



Inside, however, we were quite comfortable. Professors had single rooms in long prefabricated buildings known as “sea huts.” The food was good, served four times a day, and was free. Montieth was in a more urban area and had previously been a Serb army base until it was bombed by American jets.

The Ohio National Guard soldiers generally took their situation in stride. Most went on patrol on a daily basis in unarmored hummers that were somewhat risky because their patrol areas had not been completely cleared of Serb land mines. Every Saturday at noon, land mines that had been discovered that week were detonated just off base. It’s amazing what you can get used to after a while. I would look up after the explosions shook the camp and then continue to eat my lunch. The DFAC (dining facility) was also interesting for someone like me. Because the soldiers never knew when something might come up (a Serb church was burned by the Kosovo Liberation Army the year before), they always had to have their weapons with them at all times. So during meals, the dining facility had rows and rows of M-16 automatic weapons, grenade launchers, and machine guns on tripods next to where the soldiers were sitting. This requirement was enforced in my classroom too. I wondered at first what might happen if I had to flunk a few students!

Two more personal notables about Bondsteel. My students asked me three times to join them on their patrols

and of course I accepted each time. I think they wanted me to know what they went through when they left the base and also wondered if I would go. Before each patrol started, I had to put on my kevlar helmet, flack jacket, and army boots that had been issued to me in Germany. Everything went smoothly each time if you don’t count delays from the occasional cows and chickens that were blocking traffic in the road. I was walking to the dining facility one afternoon and I noticed three soldiers ahead of me speaking French. This was not unusual because other NATO troops often stopped at Bondsteel for lunch if they were in the area. What made this an unforgettable experience was that they were wearing patches that read “Legionne Etrange.” That’s right, they were part of the French Foreign Legion! I don’t know how many times as a kid I had dreamed of joining that force. I can’t say enough good things about the members of the U. S. military. We are greatly indebted to them for the sacrifices they make for our country. God bless them all!

So far as my life is concerned, I look at the past with gratitude. I was fortunate to meet so many people in so many places throughout the world, including my friends in the Fly-In Club. And I still look to the future with confidence because my life ain’t done yet! If any readers would like to correspond with me, my e-mail address is [dwhill18@yahoo.com](mailto:dwhill18@yahoo.com).

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## 1898 Snow-number revisions

By Richard Snow

Many people rely on accurate information in *The Flying Eagle and Indian Cent Attribution Guide*, so when errors are found they should be corrected as soon as possible.

The error was made in the CherryPicker's Guide, 5th edition. Put simply, some listings got switched. The listing for FS-402 was attributed as S5 instead of S13. Also, the CPG listing of FS-401 was listed as S12, instead of S5.

Since PCGS puts this information on their holder it is easier to change the Snow numbers to match the error listing,

than to get the coins in PCGS holders changed. Here is the current corrected information.

CPG #	PCGS#	Old Snow #	New Snow #
FS-401	37600,1,2	S5	S12
FS-402	37603,4,5	S13	S5
			S13

Below is the current list. Please copy and make notes in your book.



**S1 1898, 189/189 (e).**

### S1 1898, 189/189 (e).

*Obv. 3: (RE) Repunching visible at the base of the 1 and the lower loops of the 89. The 8 shows signs of a third punching.*

*Rev. D:*

This is a dramatic repunched date and seems to be very scarce. {63RB}



**S2 1898, 18/18 (w).**

### S2 1898, 18/18 (w).

*Obv. 4: (LH) Repunching visible at the left base of 18 only.*

*Rev. E: Olive leaf and shield points connected to denticles. Light die crack from the rim at 7:00 into the wreath.*

*Attributed to: William Van Note*

The repunching on the base of the 1 is quite bold. {64RB}



**S3 1898, 98/98 (e).**

### S3 1898, 98/98 (e).

*Obv. 5: (RE) Minor repunching visible inside the lower loops of the 98.*

*Rev. F:*



# 1898

## S4 1898, 8/8 (se).

**Obv. 6: (B)** Strong repunching visible inside the lower loop of the last 8. Late die states show heavy deformation of the front of the headress

**Rev. G:** Shield points connected to the denticles. Olive leaf away.

*Attributed to: Chuck McMullin*

This could be a die chip in the date, but it has a rounded portion like a digit so we will assume it is repunching. {64RB, 63RB}



S4 1898, 8/8 (se).

## S5 1898, 2nd. 8/8 (sw), 9 in denticles.

**Obv. 15: (C)** Slight repunching in the lower loop of the first 8. The top of a 9 is visible in the denticles below and slightly west of the 9 in the date. Some die chipping in the lower loop of the last 8.

**Rev. P:** Shield points and olive leaf just away from denticles.

*Attributed to: Don Curry*

This is the most prominent misplaced digit for the year. It should be worthy of a significant premium. There seems to be many high grade examples around.

This variety was initially listed as S13, but due to it being mislabeled in the Cherrypicker's Guide 5th edition as FS-401, this began to be labeled by PCGS as S5. To eliminate confusion it was changed here to make both correct.

{66RD, 65RD, 65RD, 64RB, 63BN, 55}



S5 1898, 8/8 (sw), 9 in denticles.

## S6 1898, 898/898 (e).

**Obv. 8: (C)** Bold repunching visible on the top half of the digits far to the right.

**Rev. I:**

*Attributed to: Joe Pifer*

This is a rather bold and wide repunched date. {58}



S6 1898, 898/898 (e).



# 1898

★★



*S7 1898, 98/98 (n).*

## **S7 1898, 98/98 (n).**

*Obv. 9: (LH) Moderate repunching visible inside the bottom loops of 98.*

*Rev. J:*

**No  
Photo  
on File!**



## **S8 1898, 1898/1898 (e).**

*Obv. 10: (B) Repunching visible on all digits, mostly on the lower loops of the 898.*

*Rev. K:*

*Attributed to: D.Hartman*

★★★



*S9 1898, Reverse dot.*

## **S9 1898, Reverse dot.**

*Obv. 11: (LH) Light die polish lines visible above the date.*

*Rev. L: An irregular-shaped dot is visible just left of center.*

*Attributed to: David Poliquin*

The dot looks intentional, which is why it is listed.  
It is likely a hardness test done with an awl or other type  
of pointed object. {63RB}



# 1898

## S10 1898, 1/1 (s).

**Obv. 12: (LE)** Light, but wide repunching visible on the base of the 1. A die line runs through the tops of the date. Another die line extends from the bust point to the top of the U in UNITED.

**Rev. M:** Olive leaf away from denticles. Shield points connected to denticles.

*Attributed to: William Van Note*

This is a fairly minor repunched date. {62RB}



**S10 1898, 1/1 (s).**

## S11 1898, 189/189 (nw).

**Obv. 13: (RH)** Bold repunching visible on the lower left quadrants of the digits, mostly on the base of the 1.

**Rev. N:** Olive leaf and shield points connected.

*Attributed to: Frank Van Valen, William Van Note*

This is a dramatic repunched date. {64RD, 58}



**S11 1898, 189/189 (nw).**

## S12 8 in denticles.

**Obv. 7: (C)** Top of 8 strongly double punched in denticle below 8 in date.

**Rev. H:**

*Attributed to: M.Bruggman*

This is a fairly bold misplaced digit, although it doesn't extend into the field.

This variety was initially listed as S5, but due to it being mislabeled in the Cherrypicker's Guide 5th edition as FS-401, this began to be labeled by PCGS as S-12. To eliminate confusion it was changed here to make both correct. {55}



**S12 1898, 8 in denticles.**



# 1898



**S13 1898, 8 in denticles.**

## **S13 1898, 8 in denticles.**

*Obv. 14: (B) The top of a digit is visible in the denticles below and slightly right of the 9.*

*Rev. O: Olive leaf and shield points connected to the denticles.*

*Attributed to: Anthony Bohle*

The digit is fairly obvious in the denticles. The digit is assumed to be an 8, due to its similar curvature. {40}



**S14 1898, 898/898 (e).**

## **S14 1898, 898/898 (e).**

*Obv. 16: (C) Wide repunching visible on the lower half of the digits, mostly on the first 8.*

*Rev. Q: Rim cuds from 6:00 to 8:00.*

The repunching is quite wide. {63BN}



**S15 98/98 (e), 18 in denticles.**

## **S15 98/98 (e), 18 in denticles.**

*Obv. 17: (LE) Moderate repunching visible in the upper loop of the 9 and both loops of the 8. 18 digits can be seen sticking out of the denticles below the 1 and 8 in the date. Date very low, close to denticles.*

*Rev. R: Right shield point connected to the denticles. Left shield point and olive leaf away.*

*Attributed to: David Finkelstein*

The misplaced digit is the most interesting part of this variety. The 8 is particularly bold. {58}



*Should we list die states as varieties?*

*By Richard Snow*



**Obv. (B).** Strong die deterioration on the denticles and on UNITED and around the left side of the eagle.

**Rev.** Die crack from the rim at 11:00 to the upper left corner of the N in ONE to the lower right corner of the N in CENT to the rim at 5:00.

*Attributed to: Steve Price*



Fly-In Member Steve Price submitted this interesting Flying Eagle cent for attribution and possible listing as a variety. There is no variety other than the die deterioration around the rim.

It is likely that there is an early die state example that shows none of these features. The question that I want to know from the Fly-In Club membership is:

**Should we list die states as varieties?**

Rather than simply follow my thinking on this, I would like your input. If we open die listings up to die states, then die “cuds” will be listed as well. It may have the effect of cheapening the value of other listed varieties, or it may enhance the collecting of all Indian cent varieties. Please forward your opinions to me at:

**Rick@indiancent.com**



# 1887

## S11 1887, 1/1 (s).

*Obv. 17: (C)* Moderate repunching visible under the flag of the 1.

*Rev. Q:* Shield points and olive leaf connected to the denticles. Die crack from the rim at 4:00 to the outside edge of the wreath and continuing up along the outside of the wreath to 3:00 and down to 6:00.

*Attributed to: Rick Snow*

Microscopic repunching might be visible on the 8's as well. {58}



S11 1887 1/1 (s).

# 1893



S19 1893, 9/9 (s).

## S19 1893, 9/9 (s).

*Obv 21: (RH)* Minor repunching visible in the upper loop of the 3. Rim crumbling from 2:00 to 5:00.

*Rev. U:* Shield points and olive leaf connected to denticles.

*Attributed to: David Paloquin*

Minor repunching, but it should be visible on all grades. {55}

# 1900

## S30 1900, 9/9 (s).

*Obv. 33: (LH)* Minor repunching at the base of the 9.

*Rev. AG:* Olive leaf and shield points well away from the denticles.

*Attributed to: David Poliquin*

A fairly minor repunched date. {63RB}



S30 1900, 9/9 (s).



# 1906

## S52 1906, 6/6 (s).

*Obv. 53: (B) Minor repunching below the base of the 6.*

*Rev. BA: Olive leaf and shield points well away from the denticles. The right side denticles are slightly separated.*

*Attributed to: David Poliquin*

This is a fairly minor repunched date. {58}



S52 1906, 6/6 (s).

## S53 1906, 1/1 (s), 6/6 (n).

*Obv. 54: (B) Sharp repunching visible on the base of the 1 and under the flag. Slight repunching visible above the 6. Die file mark from the denticles under the left side of the 0.*

*Rev. BB: Olive leaf well away from the denticles. The shield points are connected to the denticles.*

*Attributed to: David Poliquin*

Similar to S40. Check date positions. The die file mark under the 0 should be diagnostic. {64RD}



S53 1906, 1/1 (s), 6/6 (n).

